

~~Discard~~

Rocky Hill Mansion  
(H.D. Bynum & R.E. Tweedy)  
near Courtland, Alabama  
Lawrence Co.

HABS No. ALA-31F

HABS  
ALA.  
40. COURT.V  
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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
DISTRICT NO. 16

Historic American Buildings Survey  
E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer  
Auburn, Alabama

ROCKY HILL MANSION.  
Courtland, ~~Geibert~~ County, Alabama.  
LAWRENCE

Ownership:

Present Owner: H. D. Bynum & R. E. Tweedy.

Previous Owners: Colonel James E. Saunders.

Date of Erection: Approximately 1840. 1858-60.

Architect: Unknown.

Builder: Colonel James E. Saunders.

Present Condition: Fair.

Number of Stories: Two story masonry; Greek Revival; Greek porticos front and rear; turreted tower and slave tower; copy of English castle tower; very elaborate interior, ceilings, stairways, etc.,.

Other Existing Records:

See: Birmingham News, September 23, 1934.

"TENNESSEE VALLEY PLANTATION HOMES"

By E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer, H. A. B. S.

See: HISTORIC HOMES OF ALABAMA AND THEIR TRADITIONS

By Alabama Members of American Pen Women.

See: Birmingham News, November 15, 1936.

"ROCKY HILL MANSION IN HIGHLANDS"

By Varian Feare, (Mrs. E. Walter Burkhardt)

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Additional Data: Colonel Saunders possessed a large fortune and today "Rocky Hill Mansion" situated on a hilltop in the countryside two miles from Courtland, is a monument to his memory and achievements.

This old home so replete with memories and living not only of his children but of his grandchildren.

The old mansion is Greek revival. Built of the golden age it stands in a remarkable state of preservation both within and without and may be visited today by consent of a caretaker kept there by its owners.

Colonel Saunders had a love for beauty and evidently the means to carry out his dreams. Within and without there is no limitation evident in expenditure in the attainment of effect.

It arises two stories with a ground floor half story, and is crowned by an observatory from which one can see great distances across the Muscle Shoals area and to valleys and hills whose changing beauty ever a panorama of effect.

Artistic mouldings, carefully cut and fitted brackets, intricate trigylfs, carefully turned porch spindles, of which there are many since the jutting wings are provided with verandas, all ashlar treatment, and the composition of the various entrance doors, are in splendid condition today, making the old mansion a delightful study, and a promise of many years future study.

To one side is a story and a half annex, with chimneys at either end, rather colonial of treatment, which served as a probable kitchen and cooks apartment. This built of brick, stands in splendid repair.

An innovation to the main mansion and its annex is a turreted wall and tower, of Gothic mould. This, too, is delightfully executed, though decidedly out of keeping, in style, with the main structure. It can, putting this prejudice aside, but stand an interesting study. The stair is removed from it today, but its several rooms, one above the other are intact, and it stands a sort of citadel of the part.